

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. Status of the claims

Claims 1-62, 64-67, and 73-74 are canceled, claims 63, 68, 69, 70, and 71 are amended and claims 75-82 are added. Claims 63, 68-72, and 75-82 are pending with entry of this amendment.

II. Support for the amendments

Support for the amendments can be found in the specification and the original claims. The amendments simply incorporate limitations of dependent claims into independent claims or provide new claims of the same scope as claims, now canceled, that were objected to by the examiner. No new matter is added..

III. Rejections

Various claims were rejected as allegedly not enabled, not meeting the written description requirement or as allegedly invalid in view of the prior art. However, claims 68-71 were merely objected to as depending from a rejected claim. Claims 68-71 were not rejected in the office action.

While Applicants disagree with the rejections, to expedite prosecution, the claims have been amended to encompass only the subject matter that was not rejected by the Examiner, i.e., the subject matter recited in original claims 68-71. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the amended claims.

Appl. No. 10/723,383
Amdt. dated October 4, 2006
Reply to Office Action of May 5, 2006

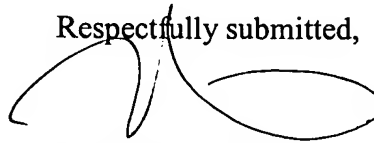
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



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